1 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING 2 3 AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 4 9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121 5 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433 6 September 16, 2013 7 8 9 10 At 9:00 a.m. on September 16, 2013, Miles B. Williams, P.E., called the meeting to 11 order at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana, with the following 12 13 members present: 14 Miles B. Williams, P.E. Chairman 15 James E. Bowie, Jr., Ph.D., P.E. Vice Chairman 16 17 M. Ernest Gammon, Sr., P.L.S. Treasurer Secretary Theodore H. Thompson, P.E. 18 19 20 Ali M. Mustapha, P.E. Kevin E. Crosby, P.E., P.L.S. 21 John W. "Billy" Moore, P.E. 22 John T. Irving, P.E. 23 24 David L. Patterson, P.L.S. 25 Paul N. Hale, Jr., Ph.D., P.E. 26 Christopher P. Knotts, P.E. 27 28 Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director 29 Joe H. Harman, P.E., Technical Support Staff Tyson Ducote, Board Investigator 30 Justin Owens, Board Investigator 31 D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney 32 33 Richard Savoie, P.E., Emeritus Board Member Norma Jean Mattei, Ph.D., P.E., Emeritus Board Member 34 35 Mark Jusselin, P.E., Emeritus Board Member Allison "Sonny" Launey, P.E., Emeritus Board Member 36 C. L. "Jack" Stelly, P.L.S., Emeritus Board Member 37 Bruce Pitts, P.L.S., Director of Enforcement, 38 39 Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional 40 **Engineers and Land Surveyors** 41 42 The invocation was led by Mr. Mustapha and the pledge by Dr. Hale. 43 Sarah Hogan, Executive Assistant to President Philip C. Williams, Ph.D., welcomed the 44 45 Board to the McNeese State University campus. 46 Chairman Williams turned over the Chairman's gavel to Dr. Bowie. 47 48 Chairman Bowie presented Mr. Williams with a plaque of appreciation for his time 49 serving as Chairman. 50 51 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Chairman Bowie, seconded by 52 53 Mr. Moore, to amend the Board Meeting Agenda to include a report from Mr. Savoie. Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Bowie. Mr. Al Cochran addressed 54 55 the Board concerning his interest in obtaining a P.E. license as a military-trained individual utilizing Act 276 of the 2012 Legislative Session. 56 57 58 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Patterson, to approve the Minutes from the July 22, 2013 Board meeting. 59 60 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. 61 Crosby, to authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps for the Board 62 to become a "paper agency" under the Division of Administration and to work directly 63 with the Department of State Civil Service (rather than the Department of 64 65 Transportation and Development) in connection with human resource matters. 66 Mr. Pitts gave his report concerning his recent peer review of the Board's investigative 67 and enforcement processes. 68 69

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Knotts, to (a) contact the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to express the Board's appreciation for Mr. Pitt's efforts and to grant the highest commendation to Mr. Pitts and the State of Oklahoma for providing these services to us and (b) report this effort to NCEES.

Chairman Bowie withdrew the charge to the Liaison and Law Review Committee regarding studying the "Structural Engineer" designation.

The Board recessed at 11:30 a.m. and resumed at 11:45 a.m.

At 11:50 a.m. members of the Louisiana Council of Engineering Deans (LCED) entered the meeting: Nikos Kiritsis, Ph.D. (McNeese State); Richard Koubek, Ph.D. (LSU), Nicholas Altiero, Ph.D. (Tulane); Mark Zappi, Ph.D. (UL-Lafayette) and Hisham Hegab, Ph.D. (Louisiana Tech).

The Board recessed at 12:45 p.m. and resumed at 1:00 p.m.; the LCED members were not present.

Chairman Bowie appointed an ad hoc committee, consisting of Mr. Williams, Mr. Knotts and Mr. Gammon, to review NSPE Position Statement No. 1770 (Early Taking of the PE Exam) and to make a recommendation to the Board at the November meeting.

Chairman Bowie charged the Land Surveying Committee with reviewing the LES letter dated September 13, 2013 which requested that the Board grant "four semester credit hours for the math courses included in an engineering degree curriculum towards the current 30 hour requirement for PLS licensure" and to make a recommendation to the Board at the November meeting.

### **Enforcement**

 <u>Case #2012-80</u> – Mr. Owens reported on a licensed engineer who applied his seal and signature to work that had not been performed by him or under his responsible charge. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,500
- 2. Costs of \$1,185.36
- 3. Cease and desist
- 4. Online Louisiana Laws/Rules Quiz
- 5. Online Louisiana Professionalism/Ethics Quiz
- 6. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 7. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Williams, Mr. Irving, and Mr. Patterson, to approve the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Robert C. Barrilleaux, P.E.

<u>Case #2012-131</u> – Mr. Ducote reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer" and "engineering" in conjunction with its name and business activities in Louisiana without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,500
- 2. Costs of \$630.39
- 3. Cease and desist
- 4. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 5. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Mustapha, Chairman Bowie and Mr. Irving, to approve the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Linx Electric, L.L.C. Case #2012-132 - Mr. Ducote reported on an unlicensed individual who practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer" and "engineering" in conjunction with his name and business activities in Louisiana without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the following sanctions: 1. Fine of \$2,000 2. Costs of \$630.39 3. Cease and desist Online Louisiana Laws/Rules Quiz 4 Online Louisiana Professionalism/Ethics Quiz 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name 6. Report to NCEES with name 7. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Mustapha, Chairman Bowie and Mr. Irving, to approve the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Brian T. Linxwiler. Case #2013-41 – Mr. Owens reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure and provided false information on its application for firm licensure to the Board. The firm subsequently became licensed in Louisiana. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Compliant Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the following sanctions: 1. Fine of \$5,000 2. Costs of \$333.19 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name 4. Report to NCEES with name After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Thompson, Mr. Irving and Dr. Hale, to approve the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Johnson, Spellman & Associates, Inc. **Case #2013-69** – Mr. Owens reported on a licensed engineer who aided/assisted his unlicensed firm in practicing and/or offering to practice engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure and providing false information on the firm's application for firm licensure to the Board. The firm subsequently became licensed in Louisiana. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Compliant Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the following sanctions: 1. Fine of \$1,500 2. Costs of \$333.19 3. Online Louisiana Laws/Rules Quiz 4. Online Louisiana Professionalism/Ethics Quiz 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name Report to NCEES with name 6. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Thompson, Mr. Irving and Dr. Hale, to approve the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Floyd E. Spellman III, P.E. Case #2012-24 - Mr. Ducote reported on the committee review of a case dealing with unlicensed practice by an out-of-state firm through the use of the word "engineering" in its name since 1989. The firm does not practice engineering and requested a waiver to allow it to continue using the word "engineering" in its name. At the March 2013 Board meeting, the Board approved the continued use of the word "engineering", if the words "d.b.a. \_\_\_\_\_ Power Services" were added at the end of the name. However, the Louisiana Secretary of State's office will not allow the firm to change its name in Louisiana unless the name is also changed in its state of incorporation. The firm is not willing to change its name in its state of incorporation. The Louisiana Secretary of State's office has recommended that they simply register \_\_\_ Power Services" in Louisiana. The committee, and use the trade name "\_\_ consisting of Mr. Williams, Chairman Bowie and Mr. Gammon, recommends that the Board approve the firm's use of this trade name in Louisiana, as long as the firm no \_ Engineering Co., Inc." in any way or otherwise uses the word longer uses "\_ "engineering" in connection with its name or business activities in Louisiana.

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67 68 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to approve the firm's use of the trade name "\_\_\_\_\_ Power Services" in Louisiana, as long as the firm no longer uses "\_\_\_\_\_ Engineering Co., Inc." in any way in Louisiana or otherwise uses the word "engineering" in connection with its name or business activities in Louisiana. The committee also requested that the enforcement staff monitor and follow-up with the respondent in the future to ensure the word "engineering" is not being used.

# **Enforcement Ad Hoc Committee**

The enforcement staff was instructed to wait for a CRC form from the CRC committee, and not rely on approval/disapproval from two committee members, before acting on the committees' decision.

# **Applications**

### **New Applications**

The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Thompson, with Mr. Irving, Dr. Hale, Mr. Moore, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Patterson, and Mr. Williams for, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Mustapha and Mr. Knotts against, and Mr. Gammon abstaining, to *approve* the application of Ms. Anna <u>Johnson</u> for licensure as a professional engineer by examination.

The Board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Crosby, to *disapprove* the application of Ms. Jennifer <u>Schindler</u> for licensure as a professional engineering by examination based on insufficient experience.

Chairman Bowie appointed an ad hoc committee, comprised of Dr. Hale, Mr. Knotts and Mr. Thompson, to develop a one-page policy regarding how to determine progressive engineering experience earned while an applicant is in graduate school and to make a recommendation to the Board at the November meeting.

Chairman Bowie appointed Dr. Hale as the Chair of the Education Ad Hoc Sub-Committee.

### Finance Committee

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to approve the FY 13-14 budget as amended.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to renew the certificate of deposit at Neighbors Federal Credit Union, which matures on October 16, 2013.

## **Old/New Business**

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by a Complaint Review Committee consisting of Mr. Williams, Mr. Knotts and Mr. Patterson to (a) prohibit the applicant who confessed to an exam irregularity during the April 2013 fundamentals of engineering examination from taking the exam again until 2014, (b) require him to complete the *Gilbane Gold Ethics Course* from Texas Tech University within 6 months of being notified of this motion and (c) require him to obtain at least 6 years of progressive engineering experience before applying to the Board for licensure as a professional engineer.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to remove the motion from the table concerning the application of Mr. Travis **Estess** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity.

Mr. Mustapha made the motion to *approve* the application of Mr. Travis <u>Estess</u> for licensure as a professional engineer by comity. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Dr. Hale, with Mr. Moore, Dr. Hale, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gammon, Mr. Knotts and Mr. Patterson for, and Mr. Mustapha, Mr. Williams and Mr. Irving against, to *disapprove* the application of Mr. Travis **Estess** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on insufficient experience.

Chairman Bowie announced that the date of the November Board meeting would be November 25, 2013.

## **Closing Business**

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Hale, seconded by Mr. Gammon, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued by the Board.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Gammon, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Williams, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2013.

James E. Bowie, Jr., Ph.D., P.E.

Chairman

Meodore H. Thompson, P.E.

Secretary